dedication to the 4-H youth of Madison Countv.

Mr. Speaker, Ted's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ted for his achievements and wish him nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING H.D. WOODSON ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT TO STEM EDUCATION

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of H.D. Woodson Academy of Engineering High School for their commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enrichment, and for participating in my annual Science and Technology Braintrust.

The teachers at H.D. Woodson Academy of Engineering are committed to ensuring that our country's youth is exposed to a STEM curriculum, which is paramount to the future of our country. A prevalent theme amongst successful STEM professionals is the curiosity and drive instilled by their teachers at a young age. We must continue to invest in schools that highlight a STEM education, so that all students will have an opportunity to one day be an astrophysicist, doctor, engineer, or a geologist.

Mr. Speaker, H.D. Woodson Academy of Engineering is a true advocate of STEM education and deserves recognition for its work. With great pride I can say that because of this school's commitment to STEM education, our country's youth is gaining the skills needed to compete in a rapidly globalizing world.

## PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

## HON. GARY J. PALMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Phyllis Schlafly America lost one of its greatest women leaders. I first met Phyllis around 1990 shortly after I began work with the Alabama Family Alliance, which later became the Alabama Policy Institute. I was tremendously impressed with her intellect and clarity on American culture and politics.

She ranks with William F. Buckley as one of the intellectual giants who helped launch the modern conservative movement. Phyllis had the clarity of thought and the communication skills of Reagan that gave her the ability to connect with women and men from all walks of life. In many respects, she was America's version of Margaret Thatcher. Her self-published book, "A Choice, Not An Echo," had an enormous impact on the 1964 Republican Convention that resulted in Barry Goldwater winning the party's nomination for president. That book eventually sold over 3 million cop-

ies and launched her nationally as one of the most influential conservatives in American history. Mrs. Schlafly was a prolific writer with 18 more books, as well as a gifted speaker.

In 1972 Phyllis founded Eagle Forum and successfully led the effort to prevent the ratification of the so-called Equal Rights Amendment. The Ladies Home Journal ranked her among the 100 most influential women of the 20th Century. Frankly, she should be ranked among the 100 most influential leaders of the 20th Century regardless of gender. I am proud to have had the opportunity to know her and work with her and her colleagues at Eagle Forum. Phyllis Schlafly lived by her faith and values to the very end and left a great legacy as an American leader for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA AND GLEN STOVER

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sandra and Glen Stover of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 30, 1966 in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Sandra and Glen's lifelong commitment to each other, their children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter truly embodies lowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING JEFFERSON ACADEMY'S COMMITMENT TO STEM EDUCATION

## HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  $Thursday,\,September\,22,\,2016$ 

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of Jefferson Academy for their commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enrichment, and for participating in my annual Science and Technology Braintrust.

The teachers at Jefferson Academy are committed to ensuring that our country's youth is exposed to a STEM curriculum, which is paramount to the future of our country. A prevalent theme amongst successful STEM professionals is the curiosity and drive instilled by their teachers at a young age. We must continue to invest in schools that highlight a STEM education, so that all students will have an opportunity to one day be an astrophysicist, doctor, engineer, or a geologist.

Mr. Speaker, Jefferson Academy is a true advocate of STEM education and deserves recognition for its work. With great pride I can

say that because of this school's commitment to STEM education, our country's youth is gaining the skills needed to compete in a rapidly globalizing world.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIEUTEN-ANT COLONEL ROCKO RODRI-GUEZ

## HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on September 13, 2016, Air Force Major Rocko Rodriguez was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. I was then grateful to participate in his promotion ceremony on September 23rd.

Rocko has been serving in my office as an In-Resident Intermediate Development Education Student attending the Air Force Legislation Liaison Fellowship Program.

Rocko was commissioned in 2001 through the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. He distinguished himself early as a leader, holding various positions in special operations, space operations, and cyber operations. Rocko has also honorably served in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and Southern Watch and Deny Flight.

This year, Rocko will receive his Masters of Science degree from Georgetown University Government Affairs Institute. When he finishes in my office he will transition to work at the U.S. Cyber Command Legislative Affairs Branch.

I would also like to offer best wishes to his wife, Sarah, and daughters Kaitlyn and Natalie and sons Troy and Timothy with his father Michael Rodriguez and mother-in-law Susan Burke, because behind every man and woman in uniform is a dedicated family.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

# TRIBUTE TO PAT AND RICHARD PERKINS

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pat and Richard Perkins of Shenandoah, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 6, 1966.

Pat and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies lowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.